

University of Alberta Child Study Centre Junior Kindergarten

March 2017

Special points of interest:

- Unpack your children's outdoor gear on Tuesdays & Thursdays to ensure dressing for outdoor play is as easy as possible

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Animal Inquiry

March is going to be a fun month at JK!! We will continue to learn more about animals. We'll work on our animal neighborhood. Perhaps creating a few interesting features like a playground, a school, and/or an elevator.

While playing with our animals we'll help them understand how to identify different emotions and act in friendly, safe, and respectful ways

The children are also fascinated with Paw Patrol. We'll use this popular cartoon to enforce the idea that everyone has a talent to share. Maybe someone will think of a way to integrate Paw Patrol into our neighborhood.

The children will also learn how to map. We'll start by mapping our class. Then we'll apply our mapping skills to the animal neighborhood. When mapping with young learners



Children are creating an animal neighborhood and teaching the animals how to be friendly & safe!

it's good to represent a familiar space with objects before drawing a map. Maps are symbolic repre-

sentation of space, so abstract thought is required. This is why some people think only older children can map.

In addition, we'll learn from resident experts. In the morning Caleb's dog, Miles' cat, and possibly Thomas' rabbit will visit.

In the afternoon, Stephanie's little sister, Drew, will speak to the children about raising a calf and other farm animals. Jessica's mom will read a story she wrote about geese. Also, a university drama class will visit to read & act out a few animal stories.

We can't wait to see how March unfolds! How FUN!

Music with Frieda

We are starting our exploration of the world of animals through music. Our journey begins with our pets and the farm, and then moves to other parts of the world where we meet animals that live in the ocean and the jungle. The books we are singing will be out at the music

centre—have a look with your child at drop-off or pick-up time.

You probably know some animal songs, too! Maybe you sang them as a child, or maybe you've picked them up as an adult. You might try sharing a song or two with your child by

singing, dancing, moving like the animals, or even finding some instruments to play along with it. (Pots and pans definitely count as instruments!) If you want to share your collective music with me at the Celebration of Learning, I would love to hear it!!



The children are beginning to participate in leading our visual and monthly calendars: BRAVO!!

Celebration of Learning–Thursday, March 23

This month the children will be practicing the skills they will showcase at the next Celebration of Learning—Thursday, March 23!!

During this very special occasion your children will proudly: lead several activities we participate in daily (like calendar time), lead you through our animal game, meet with the teacher to review one’s goal & learning story, share their binders and participate in a music activity.

Thanks in advance for ensuring a trusted adult will be able to attend JK with your child on Thurs, March 23 during your scheduled time, listed below:

The morning class will be divided into two groups. The first group (Coraline, Bryten, Caleb, Elena, Jude, Miles, Sophia, Thomas, and Winston) will come from 9:00 -10:00ish.

The second group (Reem, Alice, Andrew, Isabelle, Owen, Rayanna and Rhea)

will come from 10:15-11:15ish. (Aviva will be away)

The afternoon class, will be divided into two groups:

The first group (Amiaya, Amyrah, Chelsey, Jacob, Julia, Luca, Philip, and Victoria) will come from 12:30-1:30.

The second group (Ashton, Chloe, Zara, Connor, Jessica, Lilianna, Eva, and Xander) will come from 1:45-2:45.

Speak to Jenn or Ann if times do not work with your family.



TELUS World of Science– Monday, March 13, 2017

We have planned an exciting field visit to the TELUS World of Science (11211 142 Street T5M 4A1) on Monday, March 13. Our visit will be made up of four parts:

- ~Attend a bubble program
- ~Bathroom break & snack
- ~Visit Angry Birds exhibit
- ~Play in Discovery Land (you may wish to have dry clothes in your vehicle)

**MORNING CLASS:
9:30-11:30**

Volunteers, listed below, will participate in all activities with their child and one more. The following parents signed up for this visit:

- Jill (Miles)
- Doug (Caleb)
- Beth (Isabelle)
- Arthur (Winston)
- Matt (Coraline)

**ATERNOON CLASS:
1:00-3:00**

Volunteers, listed below, will participate in all activities with their child and one more. The following parents signed up for this field visit:

- Ellie (Philip)
- Natasha (Amiaya)
- Tatiana (Luca)
- Amanda (Zara’s Aunt)
- Kelly/Nick (Connor)



Last month at JK I learned so much! Now I can ...

I can share ideas with the class

copy cat with shapes, play go fish with number cards etc)

V, v, D and d

I can participate in stations, focusing on a specific teacher-led activity for 5-10 minutes

I can turn the pages on the CD story during stations

I can create a card for someone I like

The three stations are:

1. Write/Draw in journal
- 2.. Listen to a CD Story
- 3.. Play a Number (roll the dice and count the dots, play

I can understand we have been at JK for 83+ days and we are getting closer to the 100th day

I can try to write my name

I can recognize, and maybe say the sound for: C, c, K,k,

I can be friendly, respectful, and safe

I can have an adventure

How to Help Your Child Learn to Trade

Alyson Jiron, Brooke Broggle & Jill Giacomini: adapted by The GRIT Program

When a child sees another child playing with a toy she wants, her first instinct may be to take it. This behavior can be frustrating to play-mates and often leads to an argument. Trading is a solution children can choose as a way to get an object from someone else in a positive way, and is a great first step in learning how to share.

Trading is also a skill that must be taught and practiced many times. However, once your child is comfortable trading with others it can make her feel empowered. Knowing how to trade helps children to manage their

emotions and confidently solve their own problems without help from an adult. Unlike sharing, where children must wait to use a toy, trading is a solution that allows both people to feel happy with the outcome right away. It takes patience and guidance to teach your child how to negotiate with play-mates by herself, but it is a valuable skill that she will use throughout her life.

Suggestions for Families

Play the skill of trading. "I have a blue block. Can I trade for your red one?" Begin with objects that mean

little to your child or objects that are similar to each other so he can practice how to work his way through the interaction, rather than be worry about the object itself and who has it.

Puppets, trains, dolls, and cars can also practice how to trade.

Trading can be useful when working through disagreements with siblings.

Use trading as a possible solutions for problems.

Read more in the attached handout.



Connecting with the University Community

Volunteer

Emily will continue to come in on Monday mornings for an hour to learn with Jenn and Ann. Mostly, Emily is interested in listening to how we engage with the children and understand how we arrange our routines.

Research

Dr. Lynn McGarvey continues to work with Ann as Ann prepares the children to map. The children have been participating in many activities that develop spatial and relational concepts to create a common understanding of words used to map. They have used tangrams, traced shapes at the drawing table, created images with plastic shapes, and followed Jenn's instructions as she leads

them in copy-cat drawings. Words that describe shapes, and position like beside, above, under, above, are important for the task of mapping.

Grant MacEwan Student

Our Grant MacEwan student, Xiaolin, observed for a week in February and will join our program for a month beginning March 20. She will create many activities for the children. Please be sure to read the display she'll post

"Connecting with our University Students and Colleagues makes our program unique!"

Scholastic

Scholastic book orders are due Thursday, March 9th

Charting the Weather

Will spring come in like a lion and go out like a lamb? Last year it did the opposite!!

The weather in March provides a perfect opportunity to discuss the proverb (expression) "in like a lion and out like a lamb," and use a bar graph! On the days when the weather is cold, a lion will be added to the bar graph

and when the weather is warm, a lamb.

At the end of March, will the lions or the lambs win?

Be sure to check the graph at the Celebration of Learning!



Child Study Centre Junior Kindergarten

CLASSROOM:

Room B03 Basement
551 Education South, 11210 87 Ave, T6G 2G5
780 492 6518 jkclass@ualberta.ca
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ADMINISTRATION OFFICE:

Room B21 551 Education South 11210 87 Ave
780 492 7341
chstudy@ualberta.ca

*Child Study Centre ~ A love of
learning grows here.*

The University of Alberta Child Study Centre has been an integral part of the Department of Elementary Education, Faculty of Education since 1969. From its inception, the mandate of the Child Study Centre has been to provide early childhood educators with a model of contemporary, research-informed early childhood education practices, as well as to provide a site for both undergraduate and graduate students along with faculty members and researchers to further the field of early childhood theory and practice. The current leadership and teaching staff of the Centre are proud to continue this tradition and build on the history and strengths of the Centre to create a cutting edge early learning environments for the children and their families and to promote practice-based theories of early childhood education. In 2013, the CSC was selected as an affiliated site for the province wide initiative, funded by Alberta Education and Alberta Human services: Alberta Early learning and Child Care Curriculum framework.

View Weekly Blog Posts
<http://uofajk.weebly.com>

Important Dates to Remember



Remember to record
these dates in your
calendar or day-timer!

<i>Thursday, March 2</i>	<i>CLOSED-Teachers' Convention</i>
Monday, Mar 13	Telus World of Science
<i>Thursday, March 23</i>	<i>Celebration of Learning</i>
March 27-April 2	CLOSED—Spring Recess
<i>Wednesday, April 5</i>	<i>4 Cats Art Studio (Calgary Trail)</i>
Friday, April 14	JK CLOSED Good Friday
<i>Monday, April 17</i>	<i>JK CLOSED Easter Monday</i>
Saturday, April 22	Earth Day
<i>Sunday, May 14</i>	<i>Mother's Day</i>
Monday, May 22	JK CLOSED Victoria Day